
Subject: Infant Food Packages – Non-Contract Infant Formulas

Effective Date: October 1, 2007

Revised from: February 28, 2007

Policy: Infants will not be issued non-contract infant formulas by the Kansas WIC Program. A non-contract infant formula is defined as the iron-fortified milk-based, milk-based without lactose and soy-based infant formulas not covered by the infant formula rebate. (See policy FCI: 02.01.02 Infant Food Packages – Primary Contract Infant Formula)

The infant formula rebate yields several million dollars a year. All the money is used to purchase foods for Kansas WIC clients. Issuing non-contract infant formulas reduces the rebate and reduces the number of WIC eligible Kansas citizens that can receive WIC services.

Reference: CFR §246.10

Procedure:

1. Review the concerns that lead to request for a non-contract infant formula with the caregiver. Many concerns, such as gastrointestinal problems, including vomiting, could also be caused by:
 - a. Incorrectly diluted formula or an unsanitary environment for formula preparation.
 - Ask or observe how bottles are prepared.
 - Ask how prepared formula is stored.
 - Ask what happens to partially used bottles of formula.
 - b. An unsafe water supply.
 - Ask if the source of water is a private well.
 - Ask if the water has been checked for safety and for nitrate content.
 - c. Illness - Ask about other symptoms such as fever, colds, flu, etc.
 - d. Inappropriate feeding practices, including inappropriate burping or handling of infant during feeding.
 - Obtain diet history and check for early introduction of solids and juices or potential forced overfeeding. Also check for inappropriate liquids such as tea, "Kool-Aid™", soft drinks, water, etc.
 - Ask parent about burping and handling methods during feeding. Recommend gentle burping and handling of the infant during and after feeding.

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- e. Stressful home environment - Explore with the parent how things are at home. Infants are perceptive to surrounding environments -- especially family interactions.
 - f. Level of stimulation – Some stimulation is vital to infant development, but infants also need quiet time, low lighting etc.
- 2. If the history indicates that the issue is within a normal range, infants spitting up normal amounts of formula (dribbling 1-3 tablespoons at each feeding), or infants who are fussy or colicky (crying 1-3 hours/day is within the normal range).
 - a. Evaluate the growth chart for adequate weight gain and to provide reassurance.
 - b. Assure parents or caregivers that their infant is growing well on contract milk-based formula.
 - 3. If the history indicates that the issue is formula sensitivity or an intolerance to milk-based infant formula, suggest changing to another primary contract formula. Allow at least several days before assessing results.
 - 4. If the problem appears to be organic or psychologic pathology, refer to physician for evaluation.
 - 5. Document the information in the infant's KWIC record.